

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

1 Claim 15 (new): A method for coupling a public telephone
2 network to the Internet by dialing a number for obtaining a
3 connection, the number being a predefined number sequence
4 determined for Internet service providers with a specific
5 number in the sequence being assigned to a specific Internet
6 service provider (ISP), the public telephone network having
7 first and second number telephone exchanges and first and
8 second traffic telephone exchanges with the first and second
9 traffic telephone exchanges being respectively connected to
10 the first and second number telephone exchanges, and the
11 first and second traffic telephone exchanges having first
12 and second corresponding calling points respectively
13 associated therewith for providing access to the specific
14 ISP, the method comprising the steps of:

15 setting a first routing table in the first number
16 telephone exchange such that the specific number refers to
17 the first calling point;

18 setting a second routing table in the second number
19 telephone exchange such that the specific number refers to
20 the second calling point; and

21 directing Internet traffic, via said the first and
22 second number telephone exchanges and the first and second
23 corresponding calling points, to the specific ISP.

1 Claim 16 (new) : The method according to claim 15 further
2 comprising the step of invoicing the specific number
3 independent of any calling point used.

1 Claim 17 (new) : The method according to claim 15 further
2 comprising the step of re-directing Internet traffic from
3 the first calling point to the second calling point.

1 Claim 18 (new) : The method according to claim 17 further
2 comprising the step of invoicing the specific number
3 independent of any calling point used.

1 Claim 19 (new) : The method according to claim 15 further
2 comprising the step of using, for the Netherlands, 067xxx
3 (where x represents any digit from 0-9), as the number
4 sequence.

1 Claim 20 (new) : A system for use within a public telephone
2 network to couple the network to the Internet, the network
3 being capable of providing a connection to the Internet
4 through dialing a number, the number being a predefined
5 number sequence determined for Internet service providers
6 with a specific number from the sequence being assigned to a
7 specific Internet service provider (ISP), wherein the system
8 comprises:

9 first and second number telephone exchanges and first
10 and second traffic telephone exchanges, the first and second
11 traffic telephone exchanges being respectively connected to
12 the first and second number telephone exchanges, and the
13 first and second traffic telephone exchanges having first
14 and second corresponding calling points respectively

15 associated therewith for providing access to the specific
16 ISP;

17 a first routing table, associated with the first number
18 telephone exchange, being set such that the specific number
19 refers to the first calling point; and

20 a second routing table, associated with the second
21 number telephone exchange, being set such that the specific
22 number refers to the second calling point; and

23 wherein Internet traffic is directed, via said the
24 first and second number telephone exchanges and the first
25 and second corresponding calling points, to the specific
26 ISP.

1 Claim 21 (new) : The system according to claim 20 wherein the
2 specific number is invoiced independent of any calling point
3 used.

1 Claim 22 (new) : The system according to claim 20 wherein
2 Internet traffic can be re-directed from the first calling
3 point to the second calling point.

1 Claim 23 (new) : The system according to claim 22 wherein the
2 specific number is invoiced independent of any calling point
3 used.

1 Claim 24 (new) : The system according to claim 20 wherein,
2 for the Netherlands, 067xxx (where x represents any digit
3 from 0-9) is used as the number sequence.